

Remarks

The specification has been amended to enter the amendments previously requested in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed in the present matter on November 16, 2000, as well as several other amendments inadvertently omitted from the preliminary amendment filed on that date, so as to provide recitation of the SEQ ID NOs where appropriate in the specification and to update the application data for the related application cited at page 94 of the specification as originally filed. Analogously, claims 30-32 as filed have been amended solely to insert the recitation of the SEQ ID NOs where appropriate (these amendments to the claims correspond to those provided in the Preliminary Amendment filed on November 16, 2000, and are provided herein solely to provide a complete copy of the substitute specification including the claims). Hence, no new matter is added by the present amendments.

The substitute specification that is provided herewith contains all of these amendments inserted directly into the text of the specification, as requested by Group 1655 Legal Instruments Examiner Brenda Webb during a telephone conference with Applicants' undersigned representative on August 3, 2001. Also appended hereto is another version of the substitute specification, separate from the substitute specification itself, that has been marked up to show all changes sought relative to the previous version of this specification.

This pleading contains or is accompanied by (i) an instruction to replace the specification; (ii) a substitute specification in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b); and (iii) another version of the substitute specification, separate from the substitute specification, marked up to show all changes relative to the previous version of the specification. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that this Preliminary Amendment is in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(3); entry and consideration of the amendments are therefore respectfully requested.

It is respectfully believed that the present application is in condition for immediate examination. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt entry and favorable consideration of this preliminary amendment are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the Specification:

Please delete the present specification (pages 1-176), and substitute therefor the substitute specification (pages 1-181) that is appended hereto. The amendments sought are detailed in the additional version of the substitute specification (captioned "Version of Substitute Specification with Markings to Show Changes Made"), separate from the substitute specification itself, that has been marked up to show all changes relative to the previous version of the specification.

In the Claims:

Claims 30, 31 and 32 are sought to be amended as specified in Applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed in the present matter on November 16, 2000, which amendments are reiterated in the substitute specification and the marked-up version of the substitute specification that are appended hereto.